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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ICONIFYING AND AUTOMATICALLY DIALING TELEPHONE NUMBERS WHICH APPEAR ON A WEB PAGE

(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus are provided for recognizing and accessing telephone numbers from a Web page. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, an HTML code of an accessed Web page is parsed and converted. A parsing algorithm applied to the text in the HTML document pattern-recognizes telephone numbers. Coding is added to iconify the recognized telephone numbers. The user's Internet-capable telephone displays the iconified telephone numbers. All previously-active links and graphical displays supported by the Internet-capable telephone are maintained in this display. To call a phone number, the user selects the icon, and the Internet-capable telephone determines how to initiate the call. For a two-line phone, the Internet-capable telephone initiates a telephone call to the selected number. For a one-line phone, the Internet-capable telephone determines whether the line is available for a call. If the line is not currently being used, the Internet-capable telephone initiates a voice call to the selected number. However, if the user is connected to the Web, the Internet-capable telephone optionally transparently disconnects from the Internet and initiates a voice call to the selected telephone number. At the conclusion of the telephone call, the Internet-capable telephone optionally transparently re-connects to the Web.

